

[13th November 1922]

*Clerks in the office of the Fisheries, Calicut.*

346 Q.—Mr. A. D. M. BAVOTTI SAHIB: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the clerks in the office of the Fisheries, Calicut, have to work long hours daily and also forego many of their holidays on account of increase of work and reduction of establishment; and

(b) whether it is a fact that there is heavy cash transaction in that office and the same is attended to by a low-paid clerk in the absence of a good accountant?

A.—(a) The answer is in the negative. There has been neither increase of work nor reduction in the sanctioned strength of the office of Assistant Director (Coast).

(b) The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative. The work is attended to by a clerk on Rs. 40 in the scale of Rs. 35—35—1½—50—1—60.

*Drinking-water supply in Ganjam district.*

347 Q.—Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) the action taken on the representation made by Mr. B. Nageswara Rao, member, district board, to the Government on the question of scarcity of drinking-water in Ganjam in April last; and

(b) if any solution of this problem of frequent scarcity of drinking-water supply has been attempted with the help of the local bodies?

A.—(a) Mr. Nageswara Rao was referred to the local bodies which are responsible for the supply of drinking-water.

(b) No specific proposals have been received on the subject from Ganjam from the local bodies responsible.

*Toll-fee on unladen bulls, etc.*

348 Q.—Rao Bahadur K. GOPALAKRISHNAYYA: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state in which district boards and municipalities in the Presidency a toll-fee is levied on unladen bulls or bullocks, buffaloes, mules, asses and horses?

A.—The Government have no information.

*Representation of the depressed classes in the Chingleput taluk board.*

349 Q.—Mr. L. C. GURUSWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased—

(i) to state

(a) whether there was a member belonging to the depressed classes on the Chingleput taluk board last year,

(b) whether there are members belonging to the depressed classes on the Chingleput taluk board now,

(c) whether it is a fact that there were applications from the members of the depressed classes for nomination to the Chingleput taluk board,

(d) whether there are depressed class members on the Salem taluk board; and

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(ii) to lay on the table the names of members belonging to the depressed classes who have been nominated to the various local bodies throughout the Presidency?

4.—(i) (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) There was a member from 1st April 1922 to 26th May 1922. The Government have no information as to whether the vacancy has since been filled up.

(c) & (d) The Government have no information.

(ii) The hon. Member is referred to the latest Quarterly Civil List as regards district boards and municipal councils. Information in regard to taluk and union boards is being called for.

*Darkhast land for Adi-Dravidas in Punkunam, Wandiwash taluk.*

350 Q.—Mr. L. C. GURUSWAMI: Will the hon. the Home Member and the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Adi-Dravidas living in Punkunam village in Wandiwash taluk applied for darkhast land in Punkunam a year ago;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Revenue Officer of the place subsequently inspected the spot in person, gave verbal orders to the petitioners to cultivate the lands and promised to send the assignment order soon;

(c) whether it is a fact that the caste-Hindu ryots of the village obstructed the petitioners when they ploughed the lands, assaulted them, beat them severely and destroyed their agricultural implements and attempted to take the lives of some of the petitioners;

(d) whether it is a fact that the petitioners immediately went to the sub-magistrate at Wandiwash and reported the occurrence to him and requested him to safeguard them; and

(e) whether it is a fact that the sub-magistrate refused to admit the complaint of the petitioners?

4.—The Government have no information but will enquire.

*Pay of the district board engineer, Salem.*

351 Q.—Mr. K. A. KANDASWAMI KANDAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether there was a resolution before the Salem District Board to reduce the pay of the district board engineer;

(b) whether, notwithstanding this, they passed a resolution to increase his pay;

(c) whether it is a fact that some members sent dissenting notes to the Government;

(d) whether the dissenting note brought to the notice of the Government the losses (incurred by the district board) and the injustice resulting from the joint action of the district board engineer and the president of the district board; and